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From: mtjar@verizon.net [<mailto:mtjar@verizon.net>]

Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2010 8:20 AM

To: EBSA, E-OHPSCA - EBSA

Subject: Comment in support of RIN 1210-AB30

April 25, 2010

I am writing to support the interim final rule under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (RIN 1210-AB30).

I support the strong rule that would forbid insurance companies from charging higher copayments, deductibles, and other out-of-pocket expenses for mental health treatment than they would for other physical health care. Thank you for ensuring that mental health care and physical health care coverage are included in a single deductible.

An illness that effects mental function is no different than any other illness. The illnesses that are labeled "mental illnesses" have a genetic and physiological ground just like other illnesses. Somehow insurance companies were allowed to disallow and thus underinsure this type of illness and do not want to give up their financial advantage even when medicine/science tells us that "mental illness" is just an illness that effects the brain and in turn the way people function. This is purely a "profit" issue for the insurance companies and has nothing to do with fairness as related to medical data that shows "mental illness" to be an illness of the brain just as heart disease is an illness of the heart. Stop this discriminatory and profit-driven practice of insurance companies in regards to "mental illness"
Judith Tanner

Sincerely,

Judith Tanner
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